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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Seattle Human Rights Commission Passes Resolution Calling Upon King County to Limit Circumstances in which King County Jail will Honor ICE Detainer Requests**

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SEATTLE - Recognizing the human right of immigrant communities residing in Seattle to basic due process protections, the Seattle Human Rights Commission passed a resolution calling upon King County to limit the circumstances under which it will honor immigration detainer requests from federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for adults and juveniles in custody of the King County detention facilities.

Local enforcement of federal immigration policies through programs like Secure Communities, National Fugitive Operations Program, and the Criminal Alien Program violates the American Declaration of Rights and Duties of Man, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by denying immigrant communities protection against unlawful deprivation of personal liberty and discriminatory enforcement.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes the right of every individual to feel safe and be safe in his or her person, home, and community. The fear caused in immigrant communities from local law enforcement of federal immigration policies nullifies this fundamental right by undermining community police efforts, decreasing public safety in particular in the area of domestic violence and the separation of families; outcomes detrimental to the City of Seattle and the greater community.

King County proposes prioritizing responses to ICE detainer requests to those detained only for serious criminal offenses. The Seattle Human Rights Commission supports this approach and believes it takes us in the right direction of protecting the rights and safety of all members of our community regardless of their immigration status.

The resolution can be found at: <http://www.seattle.gov/humanrights/archive.htm>

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